

Docket No.: 44085-169

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
	:	
Shoji IMAIZUMI, et al.	:	Confirmation Number: To be assigned
	:	
Serial No.: Divisional of	:	Group Art Unit: To be assigned
Application No. 09/346,276	:	
	:	
Filed: August 11, 2003	:	Examiner: To be assigned
	:	
For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS	:	

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Mail Stop NEW APPLICATIONS  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

The references were cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in parent application Serial No. 09/346,276 , filed July 1, 1999 , which is relied upon for an earlier

**Serial No.:** Divisional of  
Application No. 09/346,276

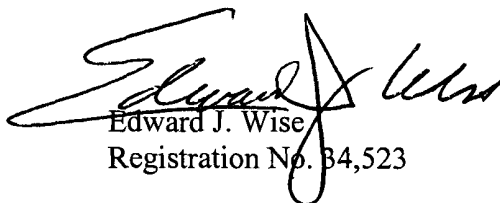
filing date under 35 USC 120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached. 37 CFR

1.98(d).

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  <b>(PTO-1449)</b>				ATTY. DOCKET NO. <b>44085-169</b>		SERIAL NO. <b>Divisional f Serial N . 09/346,276</b>	
				APPLICANT <b>Shoji IMAIZUMI, et al.</b>			
				FILING DATE <b>August 11, 2003</b>		GROUP <b>To be assigned</b>	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
		US 5,742,867	04/1998	Kodama			
		US 5,867,285	02/1999	Hirota, et al			
		US 5,893,009	04/1999	Yamada			
		US 6,441,915	08/2002	Imaizumi et al			
		US 6,215,512	04/2001	Imaizumi et al			
		US 6,323,955	11/2001	Kanai et al			
		US 6,118,463	09/2000	Houki et al			
		US 5,764,611	06/1998	Watanabe			
		US 4,809,216	02/1989	Lai			
		US 6,016,386	01/2000	Nosaki et al			
		US					
		US					
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Codes -Number 4 -Kind Codes (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation	
						Yes	No
		JP 10148779	06/1998	Kanai et al			
<b>OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>							
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.					
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

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<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.